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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/692,140	10/23/2003	Robert J. Torres	AUS920030650US1	9210

7590 12/12/2007  
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EXAMINER
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AUGUSTINE, NICHOLAS

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2179

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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12/12/2007

PAPER

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**BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS  
AND INTERFERENCES**

Application Number: 10/692,140  
Filing Date: October 23, 2003  
Appellant(s): TORRES ET AL.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert V. Wilder  
For Appellant

**EXAMINER'S ANSWER**

This is in response to the appeal brief filed 09/24/2007 appealing from the Office action mailed 01/22/2007.

**(1) Real Party in Interest**

A statement identifying by name the real party in interest is contained in the brief.

**(2) Related Appeals and Interferences**

The examiner is not aware of any related appeals, interferences, or judicial proceedings which will directly affect or be directly affected by or have a bearing on the Board's decision in the pending appeal.

**(3) Status of Claims**

The statement of the status of claims contained in the brief is correct.

**(4) Status of Amendments After Final**

No amendment after final has been filed.

**(5) Summary of Claimed Subject Matter**

The summary of claimed subject matter contained in the brief is correct.

**(6) Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal**

The appellant's statement of the grounds of rejection to be reviewed on appeal is correct.

**(7) Claims Appendix**

The copy of the appealed claims contained in the Appendix to the brief is correct.

**(8) Evidence Relied Upon**

Microsoft "Microsoft Computer Dictionary Fifth Edition", 2002, pg. 567

US 7,024,626	Ko, S	4-2006
US 6,762,777	Carroll, M	7-2004
US 6,252,596	Garland, H B	6-2001
US 6,924,822	Card et al.	8-2005

**(9) Grounds of Rejection**

The following ground(s) of rejection are applicable to the appealed claims:

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

**Claims 1, 16 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ko (US 7,024,626) in view of Carroll (US 6,762,777).**

As to claim 1, Ko teaches a method for facilitating input of information by a user into a form displayed on a display device, said form being arranged for receiving said input into one or more input fields of said form and notification objects that provide extended

information and may be triggered by a user action of editing data in text fields (column 7, lines 11- 18) but fails to explicitly teach determining when a displayed cursor is positioned within a predetermined area relative to a first input field. However, Carroll teaches determining when a displayed cursor is positioned within a predetermined area relative to a first input field, because Carroll discloses when hovered over by cursor 104, now displays popup window 130 with popup information region 132 above the regular textual content, in balloon fashion (figure 2; column 3, lines 6-9). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to a presentation method facilitated by Ko in view of Carroll and Garland to modify the presentation of first extended information as taught by Carroll and Garland. Using known technique of presenting the first extended information in a magnified state (Card: figure 15A; column 14, lines 20-27) of the presentation state of Ko in view of Carroll and Garland would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art. The combination would have been obvious because the technique of modifying the presentation of first extended information was part of the ordinary capabilities of a person of ordinary skill in the art, in view of the teaching of the technique of presenting the first extended information in a magnified state. Also Ko in view of Carroll, Garland and Card all teach methods of notifications in a computing environment for a user pending on user interaction within the computing environment. ; Ko teaches accessing a data file containing a first extended information, said first extended information containing information related to said first input field (column 5, lines 10-16); and displaying said first extended information in a first position on said display device (column 7, lines 8-10); Ko does not

teach enabling said user to change a location on said display device for said first position. However, Carroll further teaches enabling said user to change a location on said display device for said first position (column 1 lines 43-47; column 4, lines 1-20). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Ko by enabling said user to change a location on said display device for said first position as taught by Carroll in order to enable the user to freely change a location on the document to insert editable popup windows making the document flexible for the user. Also Ko and Carroll do not directly and expressly show a user-movable information window mostly because this is mostly known to one of ordinary skill in the art. All the claimed elements were known in Ko and Carroll and one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention could have combined the elements of Ko and Carroll by known methods (a user-movable information window) with no change in their respective functions, and the combination would have yielded predictable results to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention (Microsoft Computer Dictionary, Fifth Edition, page 567 "Windowing Environment"; wherein the same environment (a operating system which features windows as part of the graphical user interface for the user) as taught by Ko and Carroll). Ex parte Smith, --USPQ2d--, slip op. at 20, (Bd. Pat. App. & Interf. June 25, 2007) (citing KSR, 82 USPQ2d at 1396) (available at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/dcom/bpai/prec/fd071925.pdf>).

As to claim 16, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated herein in full and is similarly rejected under the same rationale. It is directed to a storage medium for presenting the method of claim 1. Carroll further teaches a storage medium including machine readable coded indicia (column 3, lines 44-45), said storage medium being selectively coupled to a reading device (column 3, line 46), said reading device being selectively coupled to processing circuitry within a computer system, said reading device being selectively operable to read said machine readable coded indicia and provide program signals representative thereof (column 3, lines 47-48).

As to claim 17, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated herein in full and is similarly rejected under the same rationale. It is directed to a system for processing the method of claim 1, Ko further teaches a system bus (column 3, lines 43-44); and a CPU device connected to said system bus (column 3, lines 36-38); and an input device connected to said system bus, said input device being arranged to enable user input to said system (column 3, lines 44-47).

**Claims 7-11 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ko in view of Carroll, and further in view of Garland (US 6,252,596).**

As to claim 18, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated herein in full. Ko and Carroll do not teach displaying said first extended information in a visually enhanced state relative to other content of said form. However, Garland teaches displaying said first extended information in a visually enhanced state relative to other content of said form (column 4, lines 6-9). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use a notification state (pop up) facilitated by Ko in view of Carroll to obtain a enhanced notification state for emphasizing information as taught by Garland. Using the known technique of displaying said first extended information in a visually enhanced state relative to other content of said form (Garland: column 6, lines 64-67) of Ko in view of Carroll would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art. The combination would have been obvious because the technique of obtaining an enhanced notification state for emphasizing information was part of the ordinary capabilities of a person of ordinary skill in the art, in view of the teaching of the technique of displaying said first extended information in a visually enhanced state relative to other content of said form. Also Ko in view of Carroll and Garland both teach in the methods of notifications in a computing environment for a user pending on user interaction within the computing environment.

As to claim 7, Ko and Carroll do not teach enabling said user to select a color in which said first input field is displayed on said display device. However, Garland teaches enabling said user to select a color in which said first input field is displayed on said



display device (column 4, lines 23-26). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Ko and Carroll by enabling said user to select a color in which said first input field is displayed on said display device as taught by Garland in order to change and select the attributes for the option of displaying color in the input fields. This would give the user the benefit of modifying the input fields and personalizing the display of the selected form (note claim 18 above).

As to claim 8, Ko and Carroll do not teach enhancing a display of said first input field relative to other text on said form when it is determined that said displayed cursor is positioned within a predetermined area relative to said first input field. However, Garland teaches enhancing a display of said first input field relative to other text on said form when it is determined that said displayed cursor is positioned within a predetermined area relative to said first input field (column 10, lines 53-56). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Ko and Carroll by enhancing a display of said first input field relative to other text on said form when it is determined that said displayed cursor is positioned within a predetermined area related to said first input field as taught by Garland in order to enhance the display of the input field by determining the location of the cursor would benefit the user to focus on the input field instead of focusing on the form in its entirety (note claim 18 above).

As to claim 9, Ko and Carrol do not teach enhancing comprises magnifying said first input field relative to other text on said form. However, Garland further teaches enhancing comprises magnifying said first input field relative to other text on said form (figure 4B; column 7, lines 54-61). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Ko and Carroll by enhancing comprises magnifying said first input field relative to other text on said form as taught by Garland in order to magnify the display of the input field would benefit the user to focus on the input field in an enlarged state instead of focusing on the form in its entirety (note claim 18 above).

As to claim 10, Garland further teaches enabling said user to select a magnification level of said first input field relative to said form (column 10, lines 3-13) (note claim 18 above).

As to claim 11, Ko and Carrol do not teach enhancing comprises maintaining relative size of said first input field while diminishing appearance of other text on said form. However, Garland further teaches enhancing comprises maintaining relative size of said first input field while diminishing appearance of other text on said form (column 6, lines 64-67). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the

time the invention was made to modify Ko and Carroll by enhancing comprises maintaining relative size of said first input field while diminishing appearance of other text on said form as taught by Garland in order for the text portions of the form to become smaller or less appearing to the user and maintaining current size of the input field would benefit the user to focus on the input field instead of focusing on the form in its entirety (note claim 18 above).

**Claims 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ko in view of Carroll and Garland (US 6,252,596) and further in view of Card et al. (US 6,924,822).**

As to claim 19, the rejection of claim 9 and 18 are incorporated herein in full. Ko and Carroll and Garland do not teach first extended information is presented in a magnified state. However, Card teaches first extended information is presented in a magnified state (figure 15A; column 14, lines 20-27). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to a presentation method facilitated by Ko in view of Carroll and Garland to modify the presentation of first extended information as taught by Carroll and Garland. Using known technique of presenting the first extended information in a magnified state (Card: figure 15A; column 14, lines 20-27) of the presentation state of Ko in view of Carroll and Garland would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art. The combination would have been obvious

because the technique of modifying the presentation of first extended information was part of the ordinary capabilities of a person of ordinary skill in the art, in view of the teaching of the technique of presenting the first extended information in a magnified state. Also Ko in view of Carroll, Garland and Card all teach methods of notifications in a computing environment for a user pending on user interaction within the computing environment.

As to claim 20, the rejection of claims 8 and 18-19 are incorporated herein in full.

**Claims 2- 6, 12-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ko in view of Carroll as applied to claim 1 above.**

As to claim 2, the rejection of claim 1 is incorporated herein in full. However, Ko further teaches hiding said first extended information when said displayed cursor is within a predetermined area relative to said second input field (column 6, lines 33-35).

As to claim 3, Ko does not teach enabling said user to select a presentation style for said display of said first extended information. However, Carroll further teaches enabling said user to select a presentation style for said display of said first extended information (column 4, lines 6-9). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Ko as taught by Carroll in order to enable a user

to select a presentation style for the display of information; Thereby enabling involves the use of a user profile giving the user the ability to define the characteristics they want on the display screen.

As to claim 4, Ko further teaches presentation style comprises presenting said first extended information on said display device overlapping said first input field (column 5, lines 51-56).

As to claim 5, Ko further teaches presentation style comprises presenting said first extended information on said display device above said first input field (column 5, lines 51-56).

As to claim 6, Ko further teaches presentation style comprises presenting said first extended information on said display device to one side of said first input field (column 5, lines 51-56).

As to claim 12, Ko further teaches first extended information comprises information describing a required format for input of information to said first input field (column 4, lines 51-54 and lines 59-61).

As to claim 13, Ko further teaches first extended information comprises information describing a definition related to said first input field (column 4, lines 51-54 and lines 59-61).

As to claim 14, Ko further teaches first extended information comprises information describing an allowable range of data related to said first input field (column 4, lines 51-54 and lines 59-61).

As to claim 15, Ko further teaches first extended information comprises a work aid function operable to aid said user in entering information to said first input field (column 1, lines 21-26).

#### **(10) Response to Argument**

Beginning on page 14 of Appellant's Brief (hereinafter Brief); Appellant argues a specific issue, which is accordingly addressed below.

I. Appellant argues the motivation to combine Ko and Carroll. The Examiner believes that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use a cursor facilitated by Ko to obtain a cursor position as taught by Carroll. Using the known technique of determination of when the displayed cursor is positioned within a predetermined area relative to a first input field (Carroll: column 3, lines 6-9; figure 3) of Ko would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

The combination would have been obvious because the technique of obtaining a cursor position was part of the ordinary capabilities of a person of ordinary skill in the art, in view of the teaching of the technique of determining of when the displayed cursor is positioned within a predetermined area relative to a first input field.

Also Ko and Carroll both teach in the methods of notifications in a computing environment for a user pending on user interaction within the computing environment.

II. Appellant argues the motivation to combine Ko in view Carroll in further view of Garland. The Examiner believes that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use a notification state (pop up) facilitated by Ko in view of Carroll to obtain a enhanced notification state for emphasizing information as taught by Garland. Using the known technique of displaying said first extended information in a visually enhanced state relative to other content of said form (Garland:

column 6, lines 64-67) of Ko in view of Carroll would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

The combination would have been obvious because the technique of obtaining an enhanced notification state for emphasizing information was part of the ordinary capabilities of a person of ordinary skill in the art, in view of the teaching of the technique of displaying said first extended information in a visually enhanced state relative to other content of said form.

Also Ko in view of Carroll and Garland both teach in the methods of notifications in a computing environment for a user pending on user interaction within the computing environment.

III. Appellant argues the motivation to combine Ko in view of Carroll and Garland in further view of Card. The Examiner believes that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to a presentation method facilitated by Ko in view of Carroll and Garland to modify the presentation of first extended information as taught by Carroll and Garland. Using known technique of presenting the first extended information in a magnified state (Card: figure 15A; column 14, lines 20-27) of the presentation state of Ko in view of Carroll and Garland would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art.

The combination would have been obvious because the technique of modifying the presentation of first extended information was part of the ordinary capabilities of a



person of ordinary skill in the art, in view of the teaching of the technique of presenting the first extended information in a magnified state.

Also Ko in view of Carroll, Garland and Card all teach methods of notifications in a computing environment for a user pending on user interaction within the computing environment.

IV. Appellant argues that the cited references, specifically the combination of Ko and Carroll does not teach the feature of a "user-enabled movable extended information window". The Examiner does not agree. The Examiner believes that enabling a user to move a window in a windowing environment as depicted in the cited references is well commonly known in the art and relies upon the evidence submitted to prove that it is well commonly known in the art at the time of the invention that windows inside of a windowing environment like those that are taught by the cited references (Ko, Carroll and Card) have the feature of moving and resizing of windows inside of the windowing environment (Microsoft, "Microsoft Computer Dictionary, Fifth Edition" page 567; "windowing environment"). The rejection of claim 1 is incorporated in full for further explanation.

**(11) Related Proceeding(s) Appendix**

No decision rendered by a court or the Board is identified by the examiner in the Related Appeals and Interferences section of this examiner's answer.

For the above reasons, it is believed that the rejections should be sustained.

Respectfully submitted,

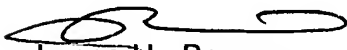


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